(b) The inadequacy of the public transport system could be one of the factors contributing to the increase in the number of private transport in the urban areas.

(c) The Government is fully seized of the problem. Presently the Ministry of Urban Development is considering the recommondations of a Task Force on Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi which *inter-alia* has suggested Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi on consortium approach basis. This suggestion, if approved, might be a model for similar projects in other urban areas in general and the metropolitan cities in particular.

Production and Marketing of Spurious and Limitation Products

2142. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whethrer it is a fact that the Minister on 12th March, 1988 while addressing 'Food Industry in the service of consumers' organised by FICCI stated that the Food Ministry should develop 'code of ethics';

(b) whether it is a fact that spurious and imitation products are being produced by various unscrupulous manufacturers and they are trying to sell them under well-known and trusted brand names;

(c) if so, the details of steps Government propose to take to ensure that such imitation and cheating does not take place;

(d) the names of items on which the excise duty is more than 20%; and

(e) whether Government propose to reduce excise on the above items in order to reduce the incentive for the unscrupulous adulterators?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) In the seminar on "Food Industry in Service of Consumers' organised by FICCI, the Minister had called upon the Food Industry to adopt a Code of Ethics and implement it in letter and spirit.

(b) and (c) General complaints to this effect are there. To deal with problems of selling of spurious and imitation products under well-known and trusted brand names by unscrupulous manufacturers, the Government has enacted the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958. Under the Act, a person can file a complaint either with the Registrar of Trade Marks or in the Court of Law. Besides, several measures have been taken by the Government to create consumer awarness such as holding of seminars, workshops, exhibitions, etc. Doordarshan and AIR are bringing out various programmes for this purpose.

(d) A list of such items is given in the encloesd Statement. (*See* below).

(e) At present there is no proposal to reduce the excise duty on items covered under (d) above.

Statement

List of items of food and beverage charged to excise duty at more than 20% ad alorem.

Description	Basic excise duty	Special excise duty
1. Cheese Manufacture with the aid of power	20%	5% of basic duty
2. Malt extract and food preparations containing malt or malt extract put up in unit containers	20%	5% of basic duty
3. Malt extract/Food preparations containing malt, malt extract or cocoa powder	20%	5% of basic duty

Description	Basic excise duty	Special excise duty
4. Extracts, essences and concentrates of coffee and preparations with a basis of these extracts, essences and concentrates or with a basis of coffee.	30%	5% of basic duty
5. Aerated waters not containing added sugar or other sweetening matter, not flavoured.	Specific rates depending on the type of packing.	5% of basic duty
(the *ad valorem* incidence will be predominently in range of 40% to 63%)		
6. Natural or artificial mineral waters and aerated waters containing, added sugar or other sweetening matter or flavoured.	Specific rate depending on the type of packing.	5% of basic duty
(the *ad valorem* incidence is predominently in the range of 50% to 79%).		

Procurement of Foodgrains in Punjab on behalf of the F.C.I.

2143. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains procured on behalf of the F.C.I. by the State agencies in Punjab during the last three years;

(b) the total quantity of foodgrains moved out of the State during each of these three years; and

(c) the total quantity of foodgrains belonging to the F.C.I. and now lying stored at various places in Punjab ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a)

(Lakh/Mts).

Year	Quantity Procured	
	Wheat	Paddy
1985-86 . . .	44.69	1 82
1986-87 . . .	39.70	9.28
1987-88 . . .	25.08	1.65

(b) (Lakh/Mts.

1985-86 . . .	88.27
1986-87 . . .	107.61
1987-88 . . .	124.94

(c) 19.20 lakh Mts., as on 1.4.1988

Arrears due to the Sugarcane Growers

2144. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the total amount of sugarcane arrears due from the factories to the sugarcane growers at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): As on 31st March, 1988, sugar factories in the country had purchased sugarcane worth Rs. 1748 crores nearly in the current sugar season (1987-88). Out of this, Rs. 1568 crores had been paid to the growers, leaving a balance of about Rs. 180 crores. Besides, an amount of nearly Rs. 10.8 crores pertaining to earlier seasons was also in arrears.

Upliftment of Minorities

2145. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister, in his speech in Madras recently, had announced that any scheme of special programme for the uplift of the minorities or the removal of the educational backwardness of certain communities could not continue indefinitely; and